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OREGON ZOOLIGHTS

Bright lights, big cats

Vanessa Guzman, left, Kailee Tabaco and Brandi Carillo take a selfie amid the ZooLights at the Oregon Zoo. Colorful lighted displays are spread throughout the zoo, and the carousel and train are running. Even Santa Claus can be found near the lion enclosure. Admission prices range from $9.95 to $14.95, and there is a $5 discount with proof of TriMet fare. The holiday tradition runs through Jan. 7, but is closed Dec. 24-25 and Jan. 1-4. More information at oregonzoo.org/visit/zoolights. *Photos by Stephanie Yao Long, staff*

Light highlights

You can find our top 10 picks for the best holiday light displays in the Portland metro area, from Peacock Lane to the Winter Wonderland at PIR, online at **bit.ly/2oti3nU**.

CONGRESSIONAL VOTES

Scramble ahead on tax plan, budget

Republicans return to Congress Monday facing a packed agenda with little time to enact it, as party leaders aim to quickly pass their massive tax plan and then cut a budget deal with Democrats to avert a government shutdown.

Taxes: GOP leaders aim to hold votes early in the week on the tax overhaul, unveiled in its final form Friday, to meet President Donald Trump's demand that they send him tax legislation before Christmas. The outcome appears certain after Republican Sens. Marco Rubio, Fla., and Bob Corker, Tenn., on Friday pledged their support. That gave the GOP the Senate votes it needs, even as Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who has brain cancer, returned to Arizona on Sunday. He is not expected to vote on the final bill.

Budget: Republicans will need Democrats' help to pass the budget measure through the Senate, however, and avoid a partial government shutdown before funding runs out at the end of Friday. Thus far they've made little progress amid disagreements over spending levels, protection from deportation for certain undocumented immigrants and a federal health insurance program for low-income children. House GOP leaders filed a spending bill last week that would temporarily extend funding for most government agencies until Jan. 19, while providing longer-term military funding at higher levels. But it is considered dead on arrival in the Senate.

Inside: Read more on the upcoming budget battle and tax overhaul on page A6.

SPORTS

Record day for UO point guard

Sophomore Sabrina Ionescu breaks the Pac-12 career record for triple-doubles in the Ducks' 90-46 home win Sunday over Mississippi. **B1**

LIVING

Skyrocketing sales for Star Wars

"The Last Jedi," the second movie in the third trilogy, debuted with $220 million, the second-best opening of all time behind its predecessor, "The Force Awakens." **A8**

2017 IN REVIEW

What we searched: Disaster, Meghan Markle, slime

The top search term was for a disaster. The No. 1 searched person was a man accused of sexual harassment. And the most-searched how-to was how to make slime. The year 2017 was captured in global search data released by Google last week.

Natural disasters and Trump: Hurricane Irma, which roared through Florida in early September, led the company's global searches. Global news searches revolved around similarly bleak events such as the Las Vegas shooting, the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, and North Korea, as tensions between President Donald Trump and North Korea leader Kim Jong Un renewed fears of a global nuclear confrontation.

Newsmakers: Former NBC "Today" show host Matt Lauer, who was fired in November as part of a wave of men who found themselves the subject of sexual misconduct allegations, was the most-searched-for person. It wasn't all doom and gloom. Meghan Markle, whose engagement to Prince Harry charmed the world, was the most-searched-for actor in the world.

How to: Slime, a squishy concoction beloved by children that you can make at home, is perhaps not so bad. Joining it on the how-to list were how to make solar eclipse glasses, buy bitcoin and make a fidget spinner.

— *Washington Post*

Classifieds, B10 **Comics**, A9 **Crossword NYT**, B11 **Puzzles**, A9 **Sports**, B1 **Television**, A12 **Weather**, B12

A little rain **50 / 42**

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